IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraph [0001] as follows:

[0001] The present application is related to pending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/487,191, filed Jan. 19, 2000 to Agrawal et al., entitled "System and Architecture for Privacy-Preserving Data Mining" having (IBM) Docket No. AM9-99-0226; U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/487,697 filed Jan. 19, 2000 to Agrawal et al., entitled "Method and System for Building a Naive Bayes Classifier From Privacy-Preserving Data" having (IBM) Docket No. AM9-99-0224; and, U.S. patent Ser. No. 09/487,642 filed Jan. 19, 2000 to Agrawal et al., entitled "Method and System For Reconstructing Original Distributions from Randomized Numeric Data" having (IBM) Docket No. AM9-99-0224 AM9-99-0225. The foregoing applications are assigned to the present assignee, and are all incorporated herein by reference.

Please amend paragraph [0006] as follows:

[0006] An interesting new direction for data mining research is the development of techniques that incorporate privacy concerns (See R. Agrawal, "Data Mining: Crossing the Chasm," In 5th Int'l Conference on Knowledge Discovery in Databases and Data Mining, San Diego, California, August 1999, Available from http://www.almaden.ibm.com/cs/quest/papers/kdd99_chasm.ppt"). The following question, "Can we develop accurate models without access to precise information in individual data records?" is raised in [["]]R. Agrawal and R. Srikant, "Privacy Preserving Data Mining," In Proc. of the ACM SIGMOD Conference on Management of Data, pages 439-450, Dallas, Texas, May 2000[["]], hereinafter referred to as Agrawal et. al (May 2000), since the primary task in data mining is the development of models about aggregated data. Specifically, Agrawal et. al (May 2000) the study of addressed the technical feasibility of building accurate classification models using training data in which the sensitive numeric values in a user's record have been randomized so that the true values cannot be estimated with sufficient precision. Randomization is done using the statistical method of value distortion (See R. Conway and D.

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Strip, "Selective Partial Access to a Database." In Proc. ACM Annual Conf., pages 85-89, 1976) that returns a value $\chi_i + r$ instead of χ_i where r is a random value drawn from some distribution ("R. Conway and D. Strip, "Selective Partial Access to a Database," In Proc. ACM Annual Conf., pages 85-89, 1976). Additionally, a Bayesian procedure is proposed for correcting perturbed distributions and presented three algorithms are presented for building accurate decision trees (See L. Breiman, J. H. Friedman, R. A. Olshen, and C. J. Stone, "Classification and Regression Trees." Wadsworth, Belmont, 1984; and see also J. R. Quinlan, "Induction of Decision Trees." Machine Learning, 1:81-106, 1986) that rely on reconstructed distributions (L. Breiman, J. H. Friedman, R. A. Olshen, and C. J. Stone, "Classification and Regression Trees," Wadsworth, Belmont, 1984; and J. R. Quinlan, "Induction of Decision Trees," Machine Learning, 1:81-106, 1986).

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